

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1508 - SB 1684

February 16, 2016

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates the Express Transportation Act to urge the Department of Transportation (TDOT) to identify and begin the development of pilot projects under the Tennessee Tollway Act as soon as reasonably practical. Expands the list of authorized pilot projects under the Act to include: a conversion of one existing HOV lane to a managed/toll lane and one of the projects currently authorized under Tenn. Code Ann. § 54-3-113(a); or a conversion of two existing HOV lanes to two managed/toll lanes.

Prohibits TDOT from imposing tolls on emergency vehicles or high occupancy vehicles on such additional projects. Authorizes TDOT to impose tolls on low-emission and energy-efficient vehicles and single occupancy vehicles on such projects. Authorizes TDOT to convert existing HOV lanes on highways, bridges, or other transportation-related facilities to tollways or toll facilities, regardless of when they were constructed.

Encourages TDOT to study the feasibility of developing, constructing, operating, maintaining, and financing the Nashville Express Network. Requires TDOT to report its findings and recommendations resulting from the study to the Transportation and Safety Committee of the Senate and Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives by February 1, 2017.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Due to multiple unknown factors, a precise fiscal impact cannot be determined with specificity. However, if any such project is undertaken pursuant to this legislation, the cost is reasonably estimated to exceed \$1,000,000; the funding for which could consist of any combination of federal, state, or local funding depending on the specifics to any project. In addition, and to the extent toll revenue is received for utilization, total costs or portions thereof, may be recaptured.

Assumptions:

- Expanding the list of pilot projects authorized under the Tennessee Tollway Act and urging TDOT to identify and begin the development of pilot projects under the Act as soon as reasonably practical could result in a significant fiscal impact to the federal, state and local government.
- Due to multiple unknown factors, including but not limited to, the design of any pilot project undertaken by TDOT as a result of this bill, the cost of development,

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construction and operation of any such project, revenue realized from toll fees related to any such project, funding sources for the project, the cost and revenue of any project that is authorized under current law that TDOT would develop in the absence of this bill, and the timing of any projects entered into, the precise fiscal impact cannot be quantified with reasonable certainty.

- The required report to the Transportation and Safety Committee of the Senate and Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives will be prepared by the Department's existing staff during regular work-hours. Any increase to state expenditures will not be significant and can be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or a reduced reversion.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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